AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions of claims in the application:

1.   (Previously Presented) A method in a computer system for transferring a compressed data file from a software application running within the computer system to a printer in communication with the computer system, said method comprising:

receiving at a device driver on the computer system a request sent from an application inquiring about whether a type of compression is supported;

determining at the device driver both whether the printer is configured to decompress the type of compression and determining whether the device driver is capable of decompressing the type of compression;

if it is determined that either the printer or the device driver is configured to decompress type of compression inquired about by the application, then returning a response to the application that the type of compression is supported..

2.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said receiving a request to transfer a compressed data file includes receiving a data structure from the software application, the data structure containing an indication of a classification of the compressed data file format and a pointer to the compressed data file.

3.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file further comprises:

obtaining a device file decompression configuration data structure, the data structure containing data indicative of compressed data file formats supported by the printer; and

determining whether the file decompression configuration data structure indicates whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file.

4.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein said determining whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file includes:

passing a compressed data file pointer to the printer; and

receiving an indication whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file.

5.   (Cancelled)

6.   (Cancelled)

7.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1, wherein the compressed data file is a compressed data image file.

8.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 7, wherein the compressed data image file is a JPEG image.

9.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 7, wherein the compressed data image file is a PNG image.

10.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 1 further comprising receiving an uncompressed data file from the software application if the printer is not configured to receive the compressed data file.

11.   (Cancelled)

12.   (Cancelled)

13.   (Previously Presented) One or more tangible computer-readable media having
computer-executable components comprising:

(a)   a device support query component that, when executed, determines whether a
printer is configured to perform a type of decompression corresponding to a type of
compression of a compressed data file associated with an application and also determines
whether a device driver for the printer is configured to perform the type of decompression;

(b)   an application interface component that, when executed, receives the
compressed data file from the application, the compressed data file having been sent by the
application in accordance with a decision from the device support query component whether
the type of compression is supported; and

(c)   a device interface component that transfers the compressed data file to the
printer via the device driver.

14.   (Previously Presented) The one or more tangible computer-readable media of claim 13,
wherein said application interface component further comprises a compressed data file
information transformation component that, when executed, manipulates data within the
compressed data file.

15-25. (Cancelled)

26.   (Previously Presented) A method in a computer system for transferring a compressed data file from a software application running within the computer system to a printer in communication with the computer system, said method comprising:

requesting a determination whether the device is configured to decompress the compressed data file;

receiving a response whether the printer is so configured, the response having been made based both on whether the printer supports a type of compression by which the data file was compressed and based on whether a device driver for the printer supports the type of compression; and

if the response indicates that the type of compression needed to decompress the compressed data file is supported, then transferring the compressed data file to the device driver.

27.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein said requesting includes passing a pointer a pointer to the compressed data file and a indication of a type of compressed data file to the computer system.

28.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein said transferring includes passing the compressed data file to the printer via a data structure.

29.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 26 further comprising decompressing the compressed data file and transferring the uncompressed data file to the printer if the printer is not configured to decompress the compressed data file.

30.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 26, wherein the compressed data file is a compressed data image file.

31.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 30, wherein the compressed data image file is a JPEG compressed data image file.

32.   (Original) The method as recited in claim 30, wherein the compressed data image file is a PNG compressed data image file.

33-43. (Cancelled)

44.   (Previously Presented) A method in a computer system for rendering a compressed data file on a printer in communication with a computer system said method comprising:

receiving a request from an application to send a compressed data file to the printer, the compressed data file having been compressed by a type of compression;

responsive to the request, determining whether the printer is configured to perform decompression for the type of compression of the compressed data file and determining whether a device driver for the printer is configured to perform decompression for the type of compression;

if the determining indicates that the printer or the device driver are configured to decompress the compressed data file, sending the compressed data file from the application to the printer via the device driver; and

if the determining indicates that the printer is not configured to decompress the compressed the compressed data file, uncompressing the compressed data file and sending the uncompressed data file to the printer via the device driver.

45.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 45, wherein receiving said request includes receiving a data structure from the software application, the data structure containing

an indication of a type of the compressed data file format and a pointer to the compressed data file.

46.   (Previously Presented) The method as recited in claim 46, wherein said determining whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file further comprises;

obtaining a decompressing-configuration data structure, the data structure containing data indicative of compressed-data-file formats supported by the printer; and

determining whether the file decompressing-configuration data structure indicates whether the printer is configured to decompress the compressed data file.

48-53. (Cancelled)